

## Message Text

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E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJECT: PROPOSED VIKING SEMINAR

1. POST ENCOURAGED AND INSPIRED BY ENTHUSIASTIC AGENCY  
RESPONSE PROPOSED VIKING SEMINAR. NOW DEFINITELY  
RECOMMEND TOP-LEVEL MULTI-LATERAL SEMINAR INCLUDING  
SCIENTISTS FROM AROUND EUROPE AS WELL AS FRANCE. HAVE  
NOT YET APPROACHED FRENCH OR EUROPEAN AGENCIES PENDING  
FIRMER PROGRAM PROPOSALS BUT PLAN TO ASK COOPERATION OF  
PALAIS DE LA DECOUVERTE - POSSIBLE SITE FOR SEMINAR -  
AND, SUBJECT NASA CONCURRENCE EUROPEAN SPACE AGENCY.

2. AFTER DISCUSSION WITH NASA ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR  
FOR TELEVISION ROBERT J. SHAFER, WHO WAS IN PARIS AUGUST  
4, HAVE FORMED GENERAL IDEA OF SEMINAR PROGRAM.  
COOPERATION NASA ESSENTIAL, AND CANNOT PROCEED PLAN  
MAJOR EVENT UNTIL ASSURED TOP-LEVEL NASA BACKING. SHAFER  
WILL DISCUSS SEMINAR PROPOSAL WITH VIKING PROJECT  
MANAGER JAMES S. MARTIN JR. AND POST ASSUMES AGENCY  
WILL ALSO DISCUSS WITH TOP-LEVEL NASA OFFICIALS.

3. AS FOR TIMING SEMINAR, SHAFER POINTS OUT THAT  
VIKING 1 AND 2 RESULTS WILL NOT BE SUFFICIENTLY ANALYZED  
UNTIL AT LEAST BEGINNING OF NEXT YEAR, AND THAT  
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SCIENTISTS WILL NOT BE FREE FOR SYMPOSIUM UNTIL THEN.

HE WILL DISCUSS WITH MARTIN POSSIBLE DATES. WE AGREE  
SYMPOSIUM CANNOT BE HELD IN EUROPE UNTIL AFTER SIMILAR  
PRESENTATION OF RESULTS HAS BEEN MADE IN U.S.

4. SEMINAR PRESENTATIONS SHOULD COVER ALL EXPERIMENTS:  
EXOBIOLOGY, SEISMOLOGY, IMAGING, GAS CHROMATOGRAPHY,  
SOIL ANALYSIS, METEOROLOGY. IN ADDITION, QUESTION  
VIKING JUSTIFICATION IN TERMS OF UTILITY TO HUMANITY  
WILL CERTAINLY COME UP. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTATION WILL  
BE NEEDED FOR DISTRIBUTION TO SEMINAR PARTICIPANTS,  
PRESS.

5. WILL ALSO NEED EXHIBIT SUPPORT. SHAFER WILL CHECK ON  
AVAILABILITY VIKING LANDER MODEL MADE BY MARTIN-MARIETTA.  
WILL ALSO NEED A DISPLAY SHOWING PHOTOGRAPHS RECEIVED  
FROM VIKING, AS UP TO DATE AS POSSIBLE. ANOTHER DISPLAY  
SHOULD SHOW HOW KNOWLEDGE OF MARS HAS CHANGED IN LAST  
TEN YEARS, CULMINATING IN DRAMATICVIKING DISCOVERIES.  
WOULD ALSO LIKE IF POSSIBLE EXHIBIT EXPLAINING HOW  
LANDING AND ORBITER IMAGERY CAMERAS WORK. UNDERSTAND  
U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY DOING TOPOGRAPHICAL MAP OF MARS -  
WOULD AT LEAST A PORTION BE READY FOR DISPLAY? WILL  
ALSO NEED FILMS, VTR'S ETC.

6. POST PREPARED TO MAKE MAJOR EFFORT ON SEMINAR; OTHER  
MISSION ELEMENTS ALSO MOST ENTHUSIASTIC.  
ANDERSON

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